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January 23, 2002

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Attorney Docket No.

31624-177199

CUSTOMER NO. 26694

U.S. PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attention: Box Patent Application

Re: New Patent Application

Inventors: Hans-Henning ZUTZ

Sir:

Please find attached hereto an application for patent which includes:

Specification, Claims, Declaration, Power of Attorney.

Priority Document, the rights of priority of which are claimed herewith under 35 U.S.C. 119: German Application No. 101 04 788.6 filed February 2, 2001.

Drawing: 2 Sheets of Formal Drawings (Figs. 1-4).

Fee (see formula below) check enclosed.

Basic Fee \$370/740..... \$ 740.00

Additional Fees:

Total number of claims in excess of 20 0 times \$9/18 \$ ---

Number of independent claims 1  
in excess of 3: 0 times \$42/84..... \$ ---

Multiple Dependent Claim \$140/280..... \$ ---

An assignment is likewise enclosed; Recording Fee \$40.\$ 40.00

TOTAL FEES FOR THE ABOVE APPLICATION... \$ 780.00

In the event there is attached hereto no check, or a check for an insufficient amount, please charge the fee to our Account No. 22-0261 and notify us accordingly.

CONTINUED

JC857 U.S. PTO  
10/052443  
01/23/02

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

January 23, 2002

New U.S. Patent Application  
Inventors: Hans-Henning ZUTZ  
Attorney Docket No. 31624-177199

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The undersigned states

that on January 7, 2002 he faxed an application for execution to the inventor's local patent attorney in Germany;

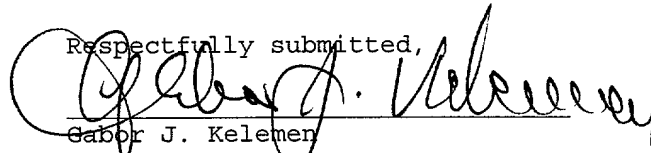
that on January 18, 2002 the inventor's local patent attorney faxed to the undersigned the inventor declaration, signed on January 18, 2002, but did not fax the text of the application;

that the application text concurrently submitted with a copy of the telefaxed declaration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.4(d) is identical to that faxed by the undersigned on January 7, 2002; and

that in a telefax accompanying the declaration the inventor's local patent attorney confirmed that no changes had been made in the application text.

It is requested that based on the above-stated facts the application be accepted as having been filed with an inventor declaration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.51.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Gabor J. Kelemen  
(Registration No. 21,016)

GJK:df

DC2-DOCS1-346408